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SECURITY INFORMATION

## INFORMATION REPORT

## REPORT

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**CIRCULATE** SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. On or about 25 November 1952 a few Bulgarian citizens arrived in Dimitrovgrad, Yugoslavia, from Sofia, Bulgaria, aboard the Orient Simplon Express. Although they were supposed to traverse Yugoslavia as transit passengers, they refused to comply with the request of Yugoslav frontier guards to produce their passports. The Yugoslav authorities asked them to leave the train but they refused to obey once again. The officer in command of the Yugoslav border post at Dimitrovgrad thereupon ordered that the railroad car with the Bulgarians aboard be detached from the train and sent back to Bulgaria.
2. Early in December the Yugoslav officer in command of the border post went to Belgrade and, upon returning to Dimitrovgrad, immediately ordered the Bulgarian railroad delegation to return to Bulgaria. The delegation, composed of three to four traffic employees and of personnel escorting trains between Dimitrovgrad and the border, complied with the order. The delegation had occupied special premises in the Dimitrovgrad railroad station. Belgrade railroad authorities are planning to install special switches on lines at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border which would make the presence of Bulgarian railroad personnel in Yugoslavia unnecessary.
3. Yugoslavia is requesting several hundred thousand dollars from Bulgaria in payment for the transit of Bulgarian vegetables to Austria. [redacted] soon all railroad traffic between the two countries will be stopped.

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**Comment:** The Yugoslav Railway Administration revoked, as of 1 January 1953, certain unspecified clauses in the frontier traffic agreement concluded with Bulgaria in 1947. This agreement provided for the

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fulfillment of all frontier railway traffic formalities at the Yugoslav frontier station of Dimitrovgrad and permitted the Yugoslav authorities to visit the Bulgarian station of Dragoman for the same purpose.

A Belgrade TANYUG dispatch of 30 December 1952 says after the Cominform resolution the Bulgarian authorities first forbade the Yugoslav "organs" to call at the Dragoman station and then began to transport goods for the northern and western countries via Rumania and Hungary, though this route was about 350 kilometers longer. This resulted in a rapid decline of traffic through Dimitrovgrad, so that now only one train passes through every 24 hours.

According to the TANYUG dispatch, the Yugoslav railway authorities, with a view to bringing matters back to normal, proposed a joint conference. Probably the delegation mentioned in the report was in Yugoslavia for this purpose. The Yugoslav dispatch says that the Bulgarians, though agreeing in principle, constantly postponed the conference and that the Yugoslavs concluded from this that the Bulgarians were not anxious to maintain normal railway traffic between the two countries.

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